

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the Final Office Action mailed July 26, 2006, (hereinafter "instant Office Action") and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8, 10, 46 and 47, are respectfully requested.

In the instant Office Action, claims 1-8, 10, 11 and 46-52 are listed as pending, claims 11 and 48-51 are listed as withdrawn from consideration and claims 1-8, 10, 46 and 47 are listed as rejected. On page 6 of the instant Office Action the Examiner states that claim 52 is allowed.

Applicants have amended claims 2, 3 and 6 to correct typographical errors.

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 1-8, 10, 46 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Calderwood et al., WO 98/41525. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and maintain the arguments presented in the Replies filed November 30, 2004, March 26, 2004, July 11, 2003, February 11, 2003, the RCE filed October 24, 2005 and the Reply filed May 11, 2006. Without conceding to the correctness of the Examiner's rejections and for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution of the instant application and to place it in condition for allowance, Applicants have amended claim one to delete "-N(R)S(O)₂-" and "'-S(O)₂NR-" from the definition of "L" and have amended claim 46 to delete compounds wherein -L-(CH₂)_j is sulfonamide and R₃ is benzene.

Based upon the foregoing, the rejection of claims 1-8, 10, 46 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Calderwood et al., WO 98/41525, is obviated and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that claims 1-8, 10 and 46, 47 and 52 are in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would advance the condition of the instant application for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' agent at the number noted below.

Date: January 25, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle B. O'Brien

Gayle B. O'Brien
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 48,812

Abbott Bioresearch Center
100 Research Drive
Worcester, MA 01605
(508) 688-8053